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Boston University

News & Notes

Boston University School of Medicine



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MEMORIAL SERVICE TO BE HELD FOR RICHARD ELKORT

A memorial service for Richard J. Elkort, M.D., an associate professor of surgery and a University Hospital oncologist, will be held Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. in Marsh Chapel on the Charles River Campus. Elkort died in June of a brain hemorrhage. Dean Sandson; Joseph Vitale, M.D., Sc.D., associate dean for international health; Peter Mozden, M.D., acting chief of surgery at UH; and A.V. Mariano, M.D., a clinical instructor in surgery, are scheduled to speak at the service.

In honor of Elkort's work in the field of nutrition and disease, a scholarship fund has been created in his name to support students or junior faculty who have research interests in nutrition and cancer. Contributions to the fund may be mailed in care of Joseph Vitale, M.D., Mallory Institute of Pathology, 784 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, MA 02118. Checks should be made out to Boston University School of Medicine and designated for the Elkort scholarship fund.

ORIENTATION LAUNCHES NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

A dinner and reception sponsored by the BUSM Alumni Association, held Sept. 3 on the Talbot Green, was among the highlights of a two-day orientation program for incoming BUSM and Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry students. Fall semester classes began Sept. 4.

Among those who addressed the students during the Sept. 3 and 6 orientation were William McNary, Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, and Dean Sandson, who emphasized the importance of learning both the art and science of medicine, and told students to learn "how to keep learning." A workshop on "Debt Management and Financial Planning for Future Physicians and Dentists" was given for the third consecutive year by Kurt Kendis of the Wharton School Applied Research Center, University of Pennsylvania.

Approximately 56 women and 78 men make up the Class of 1989. The Class includes 43 Six-Year students, 15 MMEDIC students, and one Early Medical School Selection Program student, according to John F. O'Connor, M.D., associate dean for admissions.

SNIDER ELECTED HEAD OF THORACIC SOCIETY

Gordon L. Snider, M.D., a professor of medicine and director of the Pulmonary Center at University Hospital, has been named president-elect of the American Thoracic Society. Snider was elected to the

post at a recent annual meeting of the organization, held in Kansas City, Mo. He will assume the responsibilities of president in May 1986.

In addition, Snider, who also is head of the Pulmonary Section at the Boston VA Medical Center, this year serves as chairman of the Federal Lung Program Committee of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. The Committee identifies and initiates federally funded programs on general lung health, as well as programs on maternal and pediatric pulmonary disease identification and prevention.

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE CENTER
FUNDED FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

The New England Huntington's Disease Center Without Walls, based in part at University Hospital, recently received funding for the next five years from the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke. The Center conducts clinical investigations of the medical problems surrounding Huntington's disease, and on the effectiveness of treatment methods. Researchers at the Center also undertake epidemiological analyses of factors relating to the onset and progression of the disease.

Studies conducted by BUSM researchers in collaboration with investigators at Massachusetts General Hospital are aimed at isolating the gene for the disease and developing presymptomatic tests, according to Richard Myers, Ph.D., an assistant professor of medicine and director of the Center.

Myers discussed the research efforts at the annual meeting and Helping Hands Award Program of the Massachusetts Huntington's Disease Foundation, held Sept. 8 at Middlesex County Hospital in Waltham. Also at the meeting, Daniel Sax, M.D., a professor of neurology, spoke on "Imaging Techniques in Huntington's Disease."

ROSENTHAL AWARDED FIRST BUSM
WHITAKER BIOENGINEERING GRANT

Stanley J. Rosenthal, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of physiology, recently received the first Whitaker Bioengineering Award to be given to a BUSM faculty member. The three-year grant, totaling \$149,660, will further Rosenthal's research on "Mass Spectrometric Microscopic Resolution of Epithelial Water Pathways." Rosenthal is investigating pathways of water movement on biological surfaces and is developing an instrument that is the first generation of a line of instruments that may lead to microscopy on a molecular level. Whitaker Bioengineering Awards are given every four months. To find out if a project qualifies, contact your department chairman.

SCHWEBER RECEIVES FUNDS
FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH

Miriam Schweber, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of pediatrics (genetics), recently received a \$135,000 award from the Allied Corporation/Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association. She also received an \$80,437 grant from the Retirement Research Foundation in Oak Ridge, Ill. The funds will support ongoing research on the measurement of DNA levels in Alzheimer's disease patients using recombinant DNA techniques.

ANNAS OPENS MEDICAL
ETHICS SERIES

George Annas, J.D., M.P.H., the Edward Utley Professor of Health Law and chief of the Health Law Section at the School of Public

Health, presented the first in a series of medical ethics lectures to be given in conjunction with the Department of Medicine's Grand Rounds. Annas spoke on "Reconciling Rights in the Doctor-Patient Relationship: Are Contract and Community Approaches Mutually Exclusive?" Other lectures in the series, sponsored by the Department and the medical ethics committees of BUSM and University Hospital, will be held at noon in the Keefer Auditorium on Tuesday, Nov. 6, and on Jan. 21 and May 6, 1986.

ALUMNI HONORED AT
BREAKFAST CEREMONY

A Boston University Alumni Award ceremony will be held Oct. 19 at 8:30 a.m. as part of a University-wide Parents' Breakfast in the George Sherman Union. All University alumni, faculty and staff are invited to attend the event.

Louis W. Sullivan '58, president of Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, is among the recipients of the award for distinguished public service to his profession. Sullivan was an assistant professor of medicine and physiology at BUSM from 1968 to 1974 when he was named full professor. In 1975, Sullivan left BUSM to become the founding dean and director of Morehouse College's two year medical sciences program, which became a fully accredited medical school under his leadership. Morehouse College is a member of BUSM's Early Medical School Selection Program.

SPANISH CLASSES OFFERED TO
BUMC PERSONNEL AND STUDENTS

Beginning Sept. 23, Sonia Kalikow, of the Department of Socio-medical Sciences and Community Medicine, is offering Spanish classes to help Medical Center personnel and students communicate better with Spanish-speaking patients and employees. Kalikow is offering beginning level Spanish on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Tuesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Intermediate/advanced level classes will be held Mondays from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, attend a class or call Kalikow at x4640. There is a \$10 fee for the course.

FALL CME COURSES
FEATURE BUSM FACULTY

"The Child at Risk: Physical and Sexual Abuse" is the theme of a course that will be held Sept. 30 through Oct. 1 at the George Sherman Union on the University's Charles River Campus. School of Medicine faculty members from the Department of Pediatrics and the Health Law Section of the School of Public Health will be featured. State Rep. Joseph DeNucci, chairman of the House Committee on Human Services and Elderly Affairs, will present the keynote address. The course will provide information about the identification, evaluation and management of children who are victims of physical or sexual assault and the evaluation of their families.

A course on "Medical Emergencies," to be held Oct. 17 and 18 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge, Mass., will include 12 workshops conducted by members of the BUSM Departments of Medicine, Pediatrics, Dermatology and Orthopedic Surgery. The course will emphasize emergency-care problems seen in adult patients, will provide diagnostic and therapeutic guidelines in the management of medical emergencies, and present the state-of-the-art in selected areas of emergency care.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Dean Sandson participated in a panel discussion on "The Challenge of Scientific Funding: Freedom and Responsibility," which was part of a day-long conference on Science and Human Purpose, held this summer at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston....Alan Peters, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Anatomy, recently delivered a Distinguished Scientist Lecture on "Synaptic Specificity in the Cerebral Cortex" at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond....Giuseppina d'Elia Raviola, M.D., Ph.D., a professor of anatomy, recently received the 1984 annual award of the New England Ophthalmological Society for her outstanding contributions to the field. The award was presented during the centennial meeting of the Society....Leonard J. Cibley, M.D., an associate clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology; Laurence J. Cibley, M.D., a clinical instructor of obstetrics and gynecology; and Kenneth C. Edelin, M.D., chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, presented the results of their study comparing the melting and dispersion characteristics of various medications for the treatment of vulvo-vaginitis at the 33rd Annual Clinical Meeting of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Washington, D.C. The researchers received second place for their entry in the awards category for scientific exhibits.

NEWS & NOTES is a regular monthly publication of the Office of Informational Services. If you have news of interest to the School of Medicine community, call editor Caroline Lupfer, x8482 (638-8482), or write to her at the Office of Informational Services, DOB-600 (720 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118). Marge Dwyer is managing editor.

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